

DUCKS UNLIMITED

Keeping the Iowa Lake Restoration Momentum Going



February 6, 2012



Presenters: Mike Shannon, Jon Kruse and Frank Mertz

Our Organization in Iowa



Bill Buckley

- Ducks Unlimited is the world's leader in wetlands and waterfowl conservation.
- The vision of Ducks Unlimited is wetlands sufficient to fill the skies with waterfowl today, tomorrow and forever.
- Nearly 20,000 active Iowa members living in all 99 counties participating in 114 local chapters.
- Through Ducks Unlimited efforts, we have conserved nearly 70,000 acres of habitat in Iowa with a total investment of approximately \$20 million.



Why We Are Here

- Governor Branstad is proposing to slash funding for the DNR's Lake Restoration Program to \$1 million for next year, a reduction of \$5 million from FY13.
- Historically, the program has averaged about \$7.5 million annually.



Our Ask

- **FY2012: \$5.5 Million**
- **FY2013: \$6.0 Million**
- **Proposed**
FY2014:
\$1.0 Million
- **We are asking you to maintain the current funding levels and sustain the momentum we've built for Iowa's Lake Restoration Program.**



Maintaining \$6 Million: What It Means to Real Iowans

Jobs and the Economy

- Average direct spending per lake averages over \$9 million per year and supports over 100 jobs, many of them in rural Iowa
- 6 in 10 Iowans visit our lakes multiple times a year and spend over \$1.6 billion annually.
- Brings tourism and potential business investment to our state

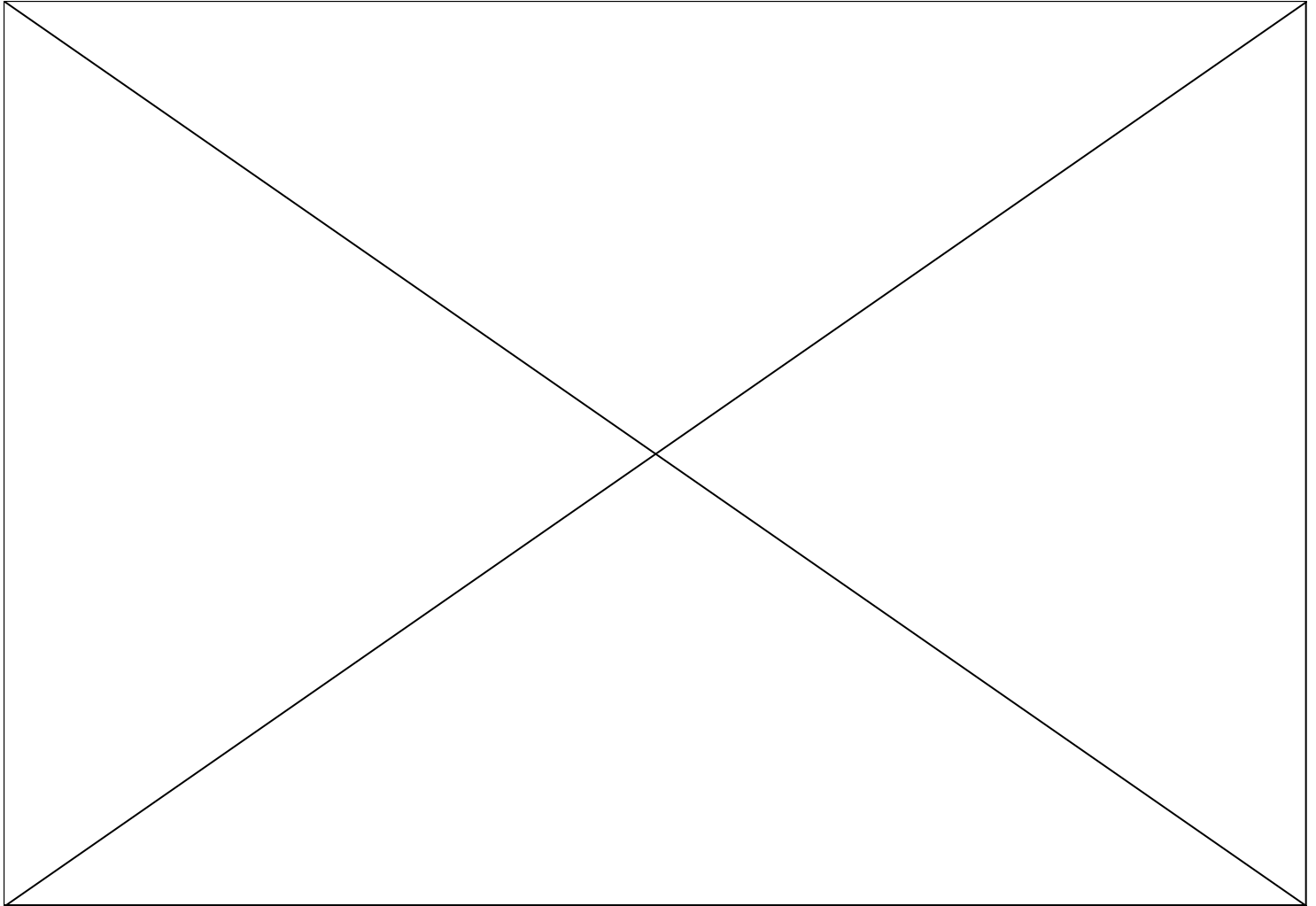
Recreation and Quality of Life

- Lake restoration helps bolster fish and wildlife habitat and our water quality.
- Popular activities include hunting, fishing, picnicking, wildlife-watching, boating, hiking, biking and swimming/beach use
- Lake restoration dollars help leverage additional dollars to do even more good for Iowa.



Facts provided by: Iowa State University Center for Agriculture and Rural Development

“The World is in Your Hands”



Thank You and Learn More



<http://www.ducks.org/iowa>

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